



CONGRESSMAN

**MIKE ROGERS**

**JUNE 2004**

*Veterans Update*

■ **National World War II Memorial Dedicated in Washington**

Political leaders, celebrities, and veterans alike converged on the National Mall on May 29<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the dedication of the National World War II Memorial. The memorial, located on 7.4 acres between the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument, began construction in September 2001 after a successful private and public fundraising campaign of nearly \$200 million.

In his speech inaugurating the memorial, President George W. Bush acknowledged the debt owed to the entire generation of people who fought to defend the United States during World War II, saying that “they saved our country, and thereby saved the liberty of mankind.” The 16 million Americans who served in the military during this time, he added, “gave the best years of their lives to the greatest mission their country ever accepted.”

For more information on the National World War II Memorial, please visit:  
[www.wwiimemorial.com](http://www.wwiimemorial.com)

■ **Bills Supporting Increased Veterans' Benefits Move**

The House Committee on Veterans Affairs moved a package of six bills that will boost a number of education, housing, health care, and disability programs available to veterans and active duty military personnel. The package includes such bills as the Veterans Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act (H.R. 4175) which would increase the amount of disability compensation and survivor pensions based on the Consumer Price Index increase, and H.R. 4345, which would increase the maximum loan amount possible under the VA home loan guarantee program.

All six bills were unanimously forwarded to the full U.S. House.

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